

TO: Representative Amanda Price, Chair
House Committee on Local Government

FROM: Mr. & Mrs. Thomas W. Clark
340 Monroe Street
Allegan, Michigan

DATE: September 17, 2014

RE: **HOUSE BILL 5730 a.k.a. JAKE BRAKE BILL**

We purchased our 1865 home on M222/Monroe Street in Allegan, MI, on January 3, 2006, after viewing it just once on a weekend. While we will never regret restoring this home to its former glory, we are now in the process of moving. The traffic noise – specifically large trucks using jake brakes – drove us from the home we love.

Ours is a residential neighborhood in a clearly marked historic district over a mile from the rural lead-in to our city. Two doors down from us is a stop light where traffic usually turns left to gain access to M40 & M89. As you can imagine, due to this juncture of three Michigan highways in the middle of our neighborhood we get a lot of truck traffic.

Not all truck drivers use their jake brake to stop or slow on our street, but an amazing amount of them do. Drivers must realize they are in a residential area as there are houses on both sides of the street for a mile before their stop at our corner. Any yet, some give no thought whatsoever to the terrible noise pollution created by these jake brakes used at all hours of the day and night. I know, because the master bedroom in this old house faces the street.

M222, M40 and M89 have been roads since the days of the Indian settlements in this beautiful area along the Kalamazoo River, so I don't think truck traffic will go away. But, it would make living here so much nicer, and quieter, if trucks were not allowed to use jake brakes within the city limits.

I am grateful to Rep. Bob Genetski and staff for bringing House Bill 5730 to my attention, and thank you for your time and consideration of this important bill.